

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

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C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 18389

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, ROSALYNN)
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: MRS. CARTER'S SCHEDULE

REF: STATE 305834

1. LUNCHEON: OUR SUGGESTION FOR AN INDIAN PRESS REPRESENTATIVE TO INVITE TO THE LUNCHEON IS SHANTA SERBJEET SINGH, A FREELANCE WRITER. MRS. SINGH WRITES REGULAR WEEKLY COLUMN MAINLY ON THE ARTS FOR THE ECONOMIC TIMES, PUBLISHED IN DELHI, BOMBAY, CALCUTTA. SHE ALSO WRITES THE WEEKLY COLUMN FOR TRIBUNE OF CHANDIGARH AND COVERS THEATER IN THE CAPITAL FOR HINDUSTAN TIMES. SHE IS COVERING MRS. CARTER'S VISIT TO INDIA. SHE VISITED THE UNITED STATES IN 1955 AND STUDIED POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AT THE WESTERN COLLEGE OF WOMEN, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA. IN 1957 SHE JOINED USIS IN DELHI AS A FEATURE WRITER. SHE RESIGNED SEVERAL YEARS LATER. SOFT SPOKEN AND KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT A VARIETY OF ISSUES, MRS. SINGH IS MARRIED TO AN ARTIST AND DOCUMENTARY FILM MAKER.

2. ALL GUESTS TO THE LUNCHEON ARE BEING ADVISED OF THE TYPE OF FUNCTION MRS. CARTER WOULD LIKE, AND WILL BE PREPARED TO SPEAK
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ON THEIR AREAS OF EXPERTISE. WE PROPOSE TO STRUCTURE THE LUNCH AS FOLLOWS:
12:45 GUESTS ARRIVE
12:45-1:00 GUESTS MINGLE ON PORCH, TO GET ACQUAINTED AND TO MEET MRS. CARTER IN A SOMEWHAT INFORMAL MANNER.
1:00 GUESTS GO TO DINING ROOM FOR LUNCH
AT LUNCH, DISCUSSION WILL BE MORE STRUCTURED, WITH

FOUR BROAD AREAS FOR DISCUSSION: INDIAN SOCIETY AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN; DELIVERY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES; CHILD WELFARE; AND GOI AND NDMC SOCIAL WELFARE ACTIVITIES. THE GUESTS HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT THE DISCUSSION WILL BE FOCUSED ON THESE TOPICS. WE WILL OF COURSE BE GOING OVER DETAILS WITH MRS. CARTER'S ADVANCE TEAM.

3. PANCHKUIN. WE WILL GO THROUGH THE PROGRAM DETAILS WITH MRS. CARTER'S ADVANCE PEOPLE AS SOON AS THEY GET HERE. TO ALLAY WHITE HOUSE STAFF CONCERNS ABOUT THE EXHIBIT, HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT IT WILL BE UP TO MRS. CARTER TO DETERMINE HOW MUCH TIME SHE SPENDS THERE. THE EXHIBIT IS THE LAST STOP ON HER TOUR OF THE FACILITIES. WE ANTICIPATE THAT MRS. CARTER WILL HERSELF SET THE PACE FOR THE TOUR, DEPENDING ON HER CONVERSATIONS AT EACH STOP WITH THE STAFF MEMBER IN CHARGE. WE HAVE STRESSED IN CONVERSATIONS WITH MISS ARORA THAT WE BELIEVE THIS TYPE OF PERSONAL DISCUSSION WITH THE STAFF IS CRUCIAL. WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE THAT SHE WILL HAVE TO SPEND TOO MUCH TIME VIEWING THE EXHIBIT.

4. CANDY FOR CHILDREN AT A PLACE LIKE THE COMMUNITY HALL IS FREQUENTLY GIVEN OUT BY VISITING DIGNITARIES,
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BUT IS CERTAINLY NOT THE ONLY CUSTOMARY FORM OF GIFT. IF MRS. CARTER WOULD PREFER SOMETHING MORE DURABLE, TWO IDEAS WHICH OCCUR TO US ARE: (A) SOME PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT (THEY HAVE NONE). LOCALLY AVAILABLE SWINGS RUN ABOUT \$60 EQUIVALENT A SET; SLIDES ABOUT THE SAME; AND SEESAWS ABOUT \$45-55 A SET. (B) A RECORD PLAYER. TO BE USEFUL HERE, THIS WOULD HAVE TO BE FAIRLY STURDY AND EITHER BATTERY OPERATED OR FOR 220 VOLT, 50 CYCLE ELECTRIC CURRENT. THERE IS A LOCALLY AVAILABLE BATTERY AND ELECTRIC MODEL WHICH GOES FOR A LITTLE OVER \$50 EQUIVALENT.

5. MISS ARORA AND MRS. SCHAFFER WILL BE HAPPY TO SERVE AS INTERPRETERS AS AND WHEN NECESSARY DURING THE VISIT.

6. MRS. CARTER'S SPEECH TO CHILDREN WILL BE BRIEF. REVISED DRAFT BEING SENT SEPTTEL.

7. LADY-IN-WAITING: REFTTEL GIVES MRS. MEHTA'S TITLE INCORRECTLY. MRS. MEHTA HAS BEEN SELECTED

TO SERVE AS "LADY-IN-WAITING" (NOT MILITARY).
THE GOI NORMALLY ASSIGNS A DISTINGUISHED WOMAN
AS, IN EFFECT, ESCORT OFFICER FOR VISITING LADIES.
WE ANTICIPATE THAT SHE WILL BE AT ALL THE MAJOR
FUNCTIONS MRS. CARTER ATTENDS, BUT WOULD NOT,
FOR EXAMPLE, BE INVOLVED IN THE PRESS INTERVIEW,
AT THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH OR IN GREETING THE AMERICAN
COMMUNITY.
WE HAVE TOLD MEA THAT MRS. CARTER WISHES TO RIDE
WITH THE PRESIDENT IN MOTORCADES WHEREVER POSSIBLE,
AND BELIEVE THIS WILL BE WORKED OUT.

8. CRAFTS: GOI HAS BEEN PLANNING ON A STANDBY
BASIS FOR MRS. CARTER TO VIEW SOME ARTISANS AT WORK
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ON TUESDAY MORNING. WE WILL TALK ABOUT POSSIBLE
TIMES AND SCENARIOS WITH THEM AND WITH THE ADVANCE
TEAM IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. OUR VERY TENTATIVE
SCENARIO WOULD BE SOMETHING LIKE THIS:

11:05 ARRIVE COTTAGE INDUSTRIES; WELCOMED AT
DOOR BY COTTAGE INDUSTRIES MANAGEMENT. PROCEED TO
CRAFTS DEMONSTRATIONS AREA.

11:10-11:40 WATCH CRAFTSMEN AT WORK, WITH
EXPLANATION OF THEIR WORK METHODS AND MATERIALS
BY COTTAGE INDUSTRIES PERSONNEL. (COTTAGE INDUSTRIES
REPRESENTATIVES WOULD SPEAK ENGLISH; NO INTERPRETERS
NECESSARY.)

11:40-11:55 (MORE OR LESS) OPPORTUNITY TO SHOP,
IF DESIRED, FOR CRAFTS OR OTHER ITEMS.

12:00 (APPROX.) RETURN TO RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN.
GOHEEN

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